

AMENDMENTS

To the Claims:

Please amend Claims 1-4, and add new Claims 5-8.

The currently pending and amended claims are below. Please amend the claims following, wherein the deleted matter is shown by a strikethrough and the added matter is shown by an underline.

1. (Currently amended) A plasmid non-viral DNA vector construct comprising an internal ribosomal entry site (IRES), a selection marker, and, a green fluorescent protein marker wherein the selection marker and the green fluorescent protein marker are transcribed as a single mRNA transcript.
2. (Currently amended) A cell stably transfected with the plasmid non-viral DNA vector construct of claim 1.
3. (Currently amended) The cell of claim 2 wherein said cell is a stem cell.
4. (Currently amended) A reagent for assessing biological processes in real time, comprising a sufficient quantity of cells stably transfected with the plasmid non-viral DNA vector construct of claim 1 in a suitable carrier medium.
5. (New) The plasmid vector construct of claim 1, further comprising a gene of interest.
6. (New) The plasmid vector construct of claim 5, wherein the gene of interest is transcribed as a single mRNA transcript with the selection marker and the green fluorescent protein marker.
7. (New) The plasmid vector construct of claim 5, further comprising an inducible control element, whereby the inducible control element allows for expression of the gene of interest.

8. (New) The plasmid vector construct of claim 1, further comprising an inducible control element, whereby the inducible control element allows for expression of the green fluorescent protein marker.